

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method of setting a fractured bone using an intramedullary nail having a first
2 hole for a proximal locking screw and a second hole for a distal locking screw,
3 comprising:

4 reaming a primary cavity extending from a proximal area, across a fractured
5 area, and into a distal area of the fractured bone, to a first diameter;

6 reaming an expanded cavity in the proximal area of the fractured bone,
7 wherein the primary and the expanded cavities are aligned;

8 inserting the intramedullary nail so as to extend from the expanded cavity to
9 a distal end of the primary cavity;

10 removing a bone fragment from the proximal area of the fractured bone to
11 expose the first hole in the inserted intramedullary nail;

12 inserting the proximal locking screw through the exposed first hole and into
13 the proximal area of the fractured bone without use of a jig; and

14 succoring the removed bone fragment to the proximal area of the fractured
15 bone from which the bone fragment was removed, after insertion of the proximal
16 locking screw.

1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein:

2 the fractured bone is a femur;

3 the proximal area of the fractured bone includes at least one of a greater

4 trochanter and a lesser trochanter of the femur; and
5 the proximal locking screw is inserted into one of the greater trochanter and
6 the lesser trochanter.

1 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the proximal locking screw has a
2 hollow core, and further comprising:
3 inserting a solid filler screw into the hollow core of the inserted proximal
4 locking screw.

1 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein:
2 with the bone fragment removed from the proximal area of the fractured
3 bone, the first hole is visible to the naked eye of the surgeon.

1 5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
2 selecting a first nail member having the first hole for the proximal locking
3 screw, and a second nail member having the second hole for the distal locking
4 screw, based on attributes of the fractured bone; and
5 attaching the selected first nail member to the selected second nail member
6 to form the intramedullary nail.

1 6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
2 drilling a hole in the distal area of the fractured bone to expose the second

DOCKET NO: 3023-005A
FILE NO: 1228.42848X00
CLIENT REF:

3 hole in the intramedullary nail; and
4 inserting the distal locking screw through the exposed second hole and into
5 the distal area of the fractured bone without use of a jig.

1 7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the distal locking screw has a hollow
2 core, and further comprising:
3 inserting a solid filler screw into the hollow core of the inserted distal locking
4 screw.